



March 30, 2022

**SUMMARY OF BILL AS AMENDED (016786):** Authorizes a local education agency (LEA) to grant a high school student credit for certain courses in which the student is not enrolled if the student attains a qualifying score on a final exam. Requires an LEA to develop credit assessments for certain subjects. Establishes certain reporting requirements for LEAs. Requires the Department of Education (DOE) to develop guidance for LEAs to use when determining the qualifying score for each credit assessment.

**FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL AS AMENDED:**

**Other Fiscal Impact – Requiring LEAs to develop credit assessments for high school students may increase local expenditures. However, due to multiple unknown variables, a precise fiscal estimate cannot be reasonably determined.**

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- A “final exam” is a comprehensive assessment designed to measure proficiency of the academic standards for a course provided by an LEA for which there is no end-of course (EOC) assessment.
- The proposed legislation will require LEAs to develop final exams for each high school course offered within an LEA for which there is no EOC assessment.
- Each high school offers approximately 72 courses of instruction that do not have an EOC assessment.
- There are 131 LEAs in Tennessee that have at least one high school.
- If an LEA has multiple high schools, it is assumed that LEAs will use a standardized course exam across each high school; therefore; each LEA that operates a high school will be required to develop and maintain 72 course exams.
- It is unknown how LEAs will choose to develop final exams for the purpose of credit assessments and it is assumed that development and administration of credit assessments will vary across LEAs; some LEAs may allow individual teachers to develop credit assessments whereas other LEAs may opt to purchase off-the-shelf materials to ensure standardization and consistency across each of their high schools.
- Due to multiple unknown variables, a precise estimate of the costs to develop, deliver, and maintain final exams for credit assessments across each LEA cannot be reasonably determined.
- DOE will be able to develop scoring guidelines within existing resources. Any fiscal impact to DOE is estimated to be not significant.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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